NAKAMA STAFF N CRACK

Episode 1 : Translators wanted

secrets within #nstaff

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Nakama Presents:

Use Your Eyes Only

Koiro Keiyaku

Ike Reibun

ISBN4-86263-040-5

Scanner: Lala Translator: Rayquo Editor: Kakureru Qcer: Tristan & Tokka
www.nakamanga.com #nakama@irchighway.net

SUPER BBC

青色契約

池 玲文

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Love starts with a burglary when art owner, Andou, has a young artist's, Kagawa Setsuyou's, masterpiece stolen from under his wing. However, he finds himself having to deal with Setsuyou's artistic whims (laugh). Setting deep in the woods, alone together in an ancient gallery... the optimal environment to enjoy Ike's artistic prowess and watch sex scenes quietly from the front row.

SUPER BE BOY COMICS

CONTENTS

AOIRO KEIYAKU

[BLUE CONTRACT]

Ike Reibun

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青色契約
AOIRO KEIYAKU
BLUE CONTRACT
SLAM

青色契約
AOIRO KEIYAKU
BLUE CONTRACT

IN THIS FOREST, I HAVE AN ARTIST UNDER MY CARE.
SETSU...

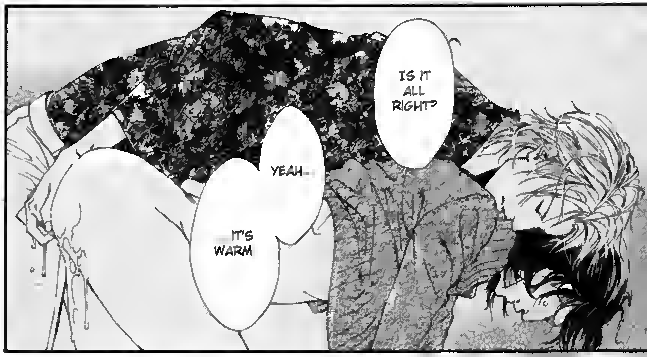
HOW'S THE NEW PIECE COMING ALONG?
ANDOU-SAN.
YOU'RE BACK.
.....
MM... NOT WELL.
PULL

"IT'S THANKS TO YOU, ANDOU-SAN "
"ALL YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT CREATING ART, BECAUSE...?"
NA-
SO YOU DO UNDERSTAND.

WAIT...
ANDOU-SAN, WAIT!
AA...
I think it was here...
shuffle
shuffle
RUMMAGE
HUH!?
THERE IT IS!

Mm...!
stick
Ah
Andou-san
SORRY, I HAVE PAINT ALL OVER MY HANDS
GIVE ME
—YOUR HAND
HM?
chop
ALL RIGHT

IT'S COLD...


IS IT ALL RIGHT?
YEAH...
IT'S WARM

THE FIRST TIME I SAW KAGAWA SETSUYOU WAS FIVE YEARS AGO...
. AT THE TOKYO BIENALE

AT THIS BI-ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION, A MERE TWENTY-SOMETHING PEOPLE WERE SPECIFICALLY CHOSEN BY THE CURATOR TO DISPLAY THEIR ARTWORK
IT CREATED A LOT OF TALK, BUT WHAT SURPRISED ME THE MOST WAS.
YOU RECOM-MENDED HIM?
YES
BUT FOR HIM TO BE SELECTED... OH!
THERE HE IS, I'LL INTRODUCE YOU
KAGAWA SETSUYOU

HE WAS STANDING BY THE MOST VIVID BLUE I HAD EVER SEEN
ACTUALLY, THIS PIECE IS STILL INCOMPLETE.
FORTUNATELY FOR ME MECENAT ACTIVITIES WERE ALSO PART OF MY JOB, SO I VOLUNTEERED MYSELF TO BE HIS PATRON

...BEFORE ANYONE ELSE COULD.
scrape

I HOPE SO
I THINK IT'S YOUR BEST PIECE FROM THESE PAST FIVE YEARS, DON'T YOU THINK?
IT'S NOT BAD
I HAVE TO AT LEAST SURPASS THAT PAINTING BEFORE IT ENDS
IT'S ALMOST THE END OF OUR CONTRACT, ISN'T IT?

THAT BLUE PAINTING THAT PIERCED THE HEART — IS NOW NOTHING BUT A LEGEND
YOU'RE RIGHT—

Pat
STOLEN ARTWORK IS NOTHING NEW.
ESPECIALLY IF IT'S WORTH WERE TO RISE BECAUSE OF IT

IT'S BEING PUT UP AT AN AUCTION!?
I'M NOT CERTAIN ABOUT THE INFORMATION.
PLEASE CALM DOWN.
IS THAT TRUE!? WHEN!?
YES FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD. IT WILL BE SOLD AT A LOCATION BY THE MOUNTAINS OF SHIZUOKA IN ONE WEEK
THE HISHIYA GROUP HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT. WE SHOULD HAVE SOMEONE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THEM GO CHECK IT OUT.
NO, WE CAN'T DO THAT.
WE WON'T KNOW IF THE PAINTING IS REAL.
YOU'RE THINKING OF GOING YOURSELF?
THAT'S DANGEROUS! THERE'S A CHANCE THEY MAY KNOW YOU!
STILL!

I AM GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF.
IT HAS TO BE ME.
PLEASE.

SETSUYOU
WOULD YOU BE HAPPY IF YOU GOT YOUR PAINTING BACK?

WHA...?
I'LL BE HERE UNTIL TOMORROW EVENING, SO THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU'D LIKE TO GO FOR DINNER.
I'LL TAKE YOU ANYWHERE YOU WANT TO GO
IT'S MY JOB TO GRANT YOUR WISHES

ANDOU-SAN...?
...

...
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO KAGAWA-KUN?
NOTHING

ARE WE CLEAR? WE ARE NOT TO STAND OUT.
I KNOW.
A SPOILED MASTER IS HARD TO CARE FOR.
DON'T SAY THAT.
THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME.
YOUR NAME?
KAMOKAWA, FROM THE MATSUBARA GROUP.

I RECOGNIZE A COUPLE OF FACES HERE.
RUSSIAN. ITALIAN.
Number 22, Kou Mari...
AM I REALLY GOING TO FIND THAT PAINTING HERE?
Isn't he the director of New York's Museum of Modern Arts?
Bidder 6 has the highest bid... any other takers?
Number 23...
STAY CALM.
.....

Kagawa Setsuyou, a 2001 piece...
AH!

Number 27 has placed a bid..
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?
YOU HAVE NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT PAINTING?
Number 38 has placed a bid Any other takers?
THE BLUE IS BLINDING
I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH IT IS
BE THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

UNDER-
STOOD
SLAM
HURRY!
WE'VE BEEN MARKED EVER SINCE WE ENTERED!
HEY! BE CAREFUL WITH IT!
click
LUNGE
MOVE!
THEY'RE PROBABLY SUSPICIOUS BECAUSE SOMEBODY DECIDED TO PAY WITH CASH!

WHAM
RIP
click
DON'T MOVE!
ALL RIGHT!
BUT WHAT WILL YOU
Go!
SASAKI, TAKE THE PAINTING!
WHO ARE YOU!?
WHO KNOWS

!!
BEEEEP
Backing up...
!!
GET IN!
SCREECH
!!
WHOA!
STOP RIGHT THERE!

HOW ABOUT YOUR WOUND? MAKE SURE THE BLOOD DOESN'T BLOCK YOUR AIRWAY
NO!
DID YOU JUST RUN HIM OVER?
I'M GLAD THE PAINTING IS SAFE
IS THIS THE TIME TO BE SMILING!? WE STILL HAVE PEOPLE ON OUR TAIL!
HAHA, NO WORRIES!
YOU'LL DO JUST FINE.
OH, YOU...!

SLAM
THEY COULDN'T CONTACT YOU, SO HE WAS WORRIED
...

Yank
GOOD TIMING,
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
ARE YOU STUPID?
I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS!

WHY?
I'M SORRY...
ANDOU-SAN...
DON'T WORRY SO MUCH...

ACTUALLY, I DID THIS FOR A DIFFERENT PURPOSE
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RENEW OUR CONTRACT..?
fank
!!
SE...
.....

YOU'RE STUPID AFTER ALL ANDOU-SAN
EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T DO THIS
I'D STILL

SETSU... WHAT'VE YOU BEEN DOING?
I'VE BEEN THINKING— IF I COMPLETE THIS PAINTING, ITS PRICE MIGHT FALL
TRUE SELLING IT AS A "LEGENDARY" PAINTING MAY BRING IN MORE MONEY,
BUT YOU WANT TO CONTINUE MOVING FORWARD, DON'T YOU?

I WON'T LET YOU DOWN, ANDOU-SAN
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT.
IN THIS FOREST, I HAVE A LOVER UNDER MY CARE.

As the bodyguard
OWNER... IS YOUR WOUND OKAY? YOU SUFFERED IT TRYING TO PROTECT ME...
YEAH, I'M FINE.
useless pheromones
SO DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT...
CLEACH
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN.
IF IT WERE TO LEAVE A SCAR, THEN
THIS IS BAD. I'M BECOMING OBSESSED
HE'S JUST GOING TO BECOME A RICH LOVESICK OWNER THAT DOESN'T EVEN LOOK GOOD!

IT WON'T BE ON THE TEST!

Everyday Facts of Blue

◆【curator】

In Japanese it is usually translated as "Gakugeiin", but curators actually have more limitations. They usually are in charge of managing museums, libraries and art galleries. Depending on the gallery they may choose artists and pieces to display for exhibitions, and some of them may even be art critics. I myself have the qualifications to be a curator as well.

◆【mécénat】

This word has French origins, meaning "support of arts and culture." It refers to financial support that corporations may contribute to arts and culture as a means of demonstrating their corporate citizenship. Setsu's and my contract is not like that, it's at an individual level. Usually galleries take 50% of the profits that come from a sale of a piece, but there is none of that with Setsu and I. In exchange for him promising to produce more than two pieces a year, I pay for his fees and provide him with an atelier.

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clatter
clatter
ボルドの扉
Bordeaux no Tobira
A Door of Bordeaux
WHAT'S A DOOR DOING HERE ?

ボルドーの扉
Bordeaux no To

UGH!
SETSU WHAT'S THAT SMELL ?
OH SORRY! I WAS JUST MELTING SOME GELATIN
GELATIN, HUH...?
USING A CHALK BASE THIS TIME?
YEAH

IT'S ON YOUR FACE... SO NEXT WEEK TIME MAGAZINE WANTS AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU ABOUT YOUR EXHIBITION
NEXT WEEK? BUT THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME TILL THE EXHIBITION
I GUESS THEY REALLY CAN'T WAIT TO SPEAK TO YOU

ARE YOU GOING TO BE WITH ME NEXT WEEK?
I DON'T KNOW I MIGHT HAVE WORK TO DO
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE AN INTERVIEW BY YOURSELF, RIGHT?
.....

I'LL BE IN THE STUDY
OKAY
I'm not a kid anymore
Hmmmm
Sure I can be absent minded at times, but am I really that helpless ?
I KNOW I'LL BE BACK BY THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK
YES..., UNTIL THEN, I'LL LEAVE THESE MATTERS TO YOU
THANKS... BYE
beep
This Secretary Suichira Hiroki

IT SHIFTED?

WELL...
I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT, BUT I REMEMBER
...WHEN I WAS YOUNG, MY GRANDFATHER BROUGHT ME HERE ONCE.
MOW!
DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS, ANDOU-SAN?
YEAH
BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS A DREAM.
?

LET'S GO INSIDE!
.....
I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD—
WHY NOT?
THIS MANSION HAS A BLOODY HISTORY.
LONG AGO, A FAMILY OF NOBILITY LIVED HERE WITH THEIR MANY SERVANTS.
HOWEVER AFTER THE MASTER'S DEATH, STRANGE RUMORS BEGAN TO SPREAD.

PEOPLE ALWAYS WISHED HER EMPLOYMENT
THE WIDOWED MISTRESS WAS EXTREMELY BEAUTIFUL, AND BECAUSE THE SALARY COULDN'T COMPARE TO OTHER PLACES,
ANYONE WHO SERVED IN THE MANSION... NEVER RETURNED
A MAID THAT HAD MISTAKENLY GONE TO THE CELLAR SAW SOMETHING HORRIFIC
ONE DAY...
BODIES OF ALL THE SERVANTS THAT WERE SUPPOSED TO BE ON VACATION,
AND THE MISTRESS WAS SUCKING THEIR BLOOD——

.....
Um, I live here...
THIS IS THE DOOR THAT LEADS TO THAT CELLAR.
ANDOU-SAN!
I don't know about the last part.
NO, IT'S TRUE.
I WENT IN THERE BEFORE AND FOUND DRIED BLOOD ON THE GROUND.
AHH!
THE MISTRESS WAS TAKEN AWAY. BUT EVER SINCE THEN, FROM THIS VERY ROOM, YOU CAN STILL HEAR THE SLURPING SOUNDS OF...

I'M SURE WE COULD GET THE KEY IF WE ASK THE ADMINISTRATOR, MURATA-SAN, ABOUT IT
squeeeze
.....
LET'S...
LET'S GO CHECK IT OUT!
Huh?
LET'S CHECK TO SEE IF IT'S REAL, ANDOU-SAN!

RIGHT!?
IT'LL BE SCARIER IF WE DON'T!
UH— UHHHHM
Pitter
THAT'S TRUE
BUT SHOULDN'T YOU WASH UP FIRST?

KNOCK KNOCK
THAT WAS PRETTY SCARY...
IT SOUNDS LIKE A TYPICAL HORROR STORY, BUT FOR THIS MANSION, IT'S BELIEVABLE.
A murder or two...
WHAT?
WHAT'S WRONG?
click
I THOUGHT I'D COME IN AND WASH YOUR HAIR

YOU HAVE PLASTER IN YOUR HAIR.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU'VE TOUCHED ME ANDOU-SAN
LATELY, I'VE BEEN BUSY WITH WORK.
THAT'S TRUE...

I'M FINE WHEN I'M PAINTING, BUT...
SOMETIMES I GET LONELY

splash
splash
Ah...
splash
.....
Nn...!
Ah...
WAIT
slosh
splash
slosh

Your clothes...
SETSU...
Mm...
Andou-san

And un-
sah...
Nn
Setsu

.....
slide
.....
Mm..!
Nh
Ahh..!
Mmm

thrust
JAGUER
Drain
DROWNING?
I'm drowning!
Ah

Aaaah!
GRAB
.....
ANDOU-SAN
I'M SCARED OF THAT ROOM TOO, BUT
HMM?

I'M MORE SCARED IF YOU STOPPED COMING BACK TO ME.
.....
I'D BE SCARED OF YOU NOT SAYING THOSE WORDS TO ME ANYMORE.

SORRY FOR CALLING YOU OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN.
NO. NO. IT'S MY JOB.
IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED CALL ME.
IS IT THIS KEY?
OH! IT OPENED.
OKAY, LET'S GO.
SIGH

I FEEL COLD— AND IT'S SO HUMID DOWN HERE
IT'S DARK, SO BE CAREFUL
ANDOU-SAN—
WHAT IS THIS ROOM?

Crash
!
THE BLOOD-STAIN FROM BEFORE...?
HOW IS IT? FIND A WINE BOTTLE OR TWO?

WHAT A WASTE TO NOT USE SUCH A MAGNIFICENT CAVE*
WINE?
I'M SURE IT COULD BE IN USE AGAIN IF YOU RECONNECTED THE HUMIDIFIER TO THE WATER LINES.
YEAH, A WINE CELLAR...
CAVE?
OH! A CAVE!

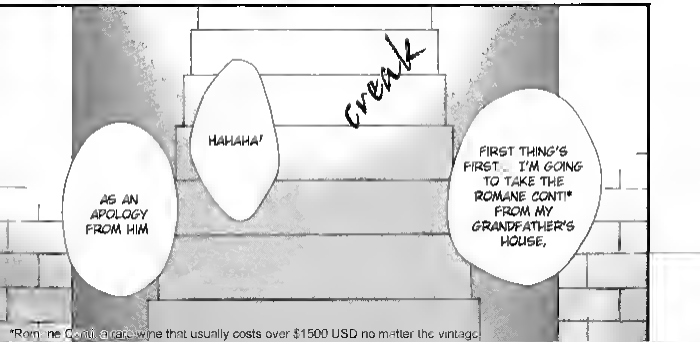
*cave = not as in "kayv" but as in "kahv" (French) meaning wine cellar

I'LL TAKE A LOOK UPSTAIRS
HAH
I WAS FOOLED
PFT...
WHAT?
HAHAHAHA!! YOU
ANDOU-SAN DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE SCARED!?
.....

I DON'T LIKE THINGS THAT ARE HARD TO DECIPHER.
I COULDN'T HELP IT.
YOU CAME IN WHILE I WAS TAKING MY BATH BECAUSE YOU WERE SCARED TO BE ALONE.
NOW I SEE!
ANDOU-SAN, WHEN YOU'RE SCARED, YOU CAN ALWAYS LEAN ON ME.

I'LL DO THAT
Achoo!
SNIFF
LET'S GO BACK UPSTAIRS
OKAY

I'LL COLLECT SOME OF THE BEST VINTAGE WINES,
AND WE'LL DRINK THEM TOGETHER ON OUR BIRTHDAYS.
step
step
I KNOW WHY DON'T I GET THIS ROOM PROPERLY EQUIPPED?



*Romanee Conti, a rare wine that usually costs over $1500 USD no matter the vintage.

Bordeaux no Tobira ／END

HEY...
WHAT WERE YOU LIKE WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG?
HM?
PAMPER
PAMPER
AWW! MARRY ME!
EN YOU'RE OLDER, LET'S GET MARRIED
He was already gay
No I'm going to marry Yoshiaki-chan.
UMM...
?

Everyday Facts of Blue

◆ **GELATIN (originally printed as "Nikawa")**

Protein taken from animal skin and bones. In other words, gelatin. In Japanese paintings, it's usually used as a kind of glue to make the paint stick to the paper. For example, ultra marine blue paint is actually a precious stone, lapis lazuli, ground into a powder and mixed with gelatin. The paints Setsu uses are all made from authentic minerals but commercial paints are usually made from synthetic material. Gelatin is melted before its use, but when it is, it smells like a rotting animal.

◆ **CHALK BASE (originally printed as "Hakuaji")**

In essence, calcium carbonated, a whitish powder like flour. It can be turned into paint by mixing it with gelatin or water. With oil paints or tempera, you usually put this chalk base on the fabric or wood board to make it into "hakuaji," and paint over the top of it. Chalk based canvases are delicate, and in Japan's climate, they are usually susceptible to mold. That's why you would have to then mix in a preservative... yes, it's pretty hard work.

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SIGH...
creak
アイボリーの誘惑
IVORY NO YU-WAKU
Ivory Seduction
I'LL GET TO IT TOMORROW! AND WHY ARE ALL MY ASSIGNMENTS THE SAME?
LATELY, YOU'VE BEEN ACTIVE IN MANY ASPECTS OF ARTS AND CULTURE.
So energetic all of a sudden.
FINISHED?
YEAH
I ALSO HAVE THE DRAFT 'GALLERY REVIEW' ARTICLE ABOUT ROPPONGI'S ART SCENE THAT YOU NEED TO LOOK OVER.

.....
I'M FINISHED FOR TODAY!
ANDOU-SAN!
アイボリーの誘惑
IVORY NO YU-WAKU
Ivory Seduction

I HAVE A LOVER, WHO IS AN ARTIST, NAMED KAGAWA SETSUYOU
SORRY. MY HANDS ARE FULL RIGHT NOW
PATTER PATTER
THAT'S ALL RIGHT DON'T MIND ME. CONTINUE WORKING.

RIGHT NOW, HE'S BUSY COMPLETING HIS PAINTING THAT WAS ONCE STOLEN BUT I RETURNED TO HIM.
EVER SINCE BEING TAKEN AWAY FIVE YEARS AGO, IT HAS BECOME HIS 'LEGENDARY' MASTERPIECE
SEEING THAT SERIOUS EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE FRIGHTENS ME

WHEN SUCH A DILIGENT PERSON IS WORKING BESIDE ME,
HOW COULD I NOT BE MORE ENERGETIC MYSELF?
thump
creak
creak
MM...

SETSU... YOU'RE FINISHED?
ANDOU-SAN. LET ME TOUCH YOU...
I NEVER EXPECTED THAT I'D BE ASSAULTED IN MY SLEEP
At least 30 min
.....

CYCLE

squish
squish
Ahh!
Ahn!
thrust
Ah ! No
I'm coming!
squeeze
thrust

squish
squelch
No...
I can't hold it!!!
A LITTLE BIT MORE
Ah
lunge
SETSU!
Andou-san
Let go of my hand

Haah!
thump
Ah! It won't stop
grab
Nn...!
creak
CRUMPLE
toss

UGH...
YOU ACTUALLY HAD YOUR WAY WITH ME.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH
YOUR HAIR'S GETTING LONG
.....

I WANTED TO CUT IT BECAUSE IT'S ALMOST SUMMER, BUT
YEAH?
I THINK I'LL CUT IT WHEN I FINISH THE PIECE
OH
Nice and clean.
Mmm?
I'm sorry it isn't a buzz cut.
YOU KNOW...
I FEEL LIKE I'M SO CLOSE TO GRASPING THAT "THIS IS IT" FEELING.
...BUT NOT QUITE THERE

THAT'S FINE...
I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT.
LOOKING AT YOUR NECK LIKE THIS REMINDS ME OF WHEN WE FIRST MET
HUH?
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH I WANTED TO TOUCH THAT PALE NECK OF YOURS.
EVERY TIME I SAW YOU FROM BEHIND, I FELT THIS URGE... IT WAS A BATTLE AGAINST SEDUCTION!
PFFT!

OH!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU LOOKED SO SCARY!
SETSU...
WHY DIDN'T YOU RETALIATE THE FIRST TIME?
YOUR EYES WERE SO SERIOUS-LOOKING!
I thought I can't fight against him.
.....
I'M SORRY...
Forgive me.

ANDOU-SAN, YOU KNOW. I'VE NEVER ONCE SAID THAT I DIDN'T WANT YOU... EVER.

ALL RIGHT, BACK TO WORK!
I GUESS I SHOULD ALSO GET BACK TO WORK
Ivory Seduction / END

NAKAMA STAFF N CRACK

Episode 1 : Translators wanted

secrets within #nstaff

<kikiireru>lets whore it out, with a request message.
<kikiireru> @_@
<kikiireru>haka i need your witty humor, something to get translators to join us
<kikiireru> >.<
<hakanai-[work]> oooh. *ponders*
<hakanai-[work]> a haiku: a stable of bisb / for those Japanese fluent / nakama owns all okay kidding...
<hakanai-[work]> errr... the wit fails me today. o.o
* kikiireru kicks
<kikiireru>: for some reason ppl are scared of nakama
<hakanai-[work]> hehe. i suppose it's because you've been around forever. and take no shit.
<hakanai-[work]> but who wants shit anyway.
<hakanai-[work]> wanted: japanese translators who take no shit.
<hakanai-[work]> i wonder if that can be written in strange kanji that can have a totally different meaning.
<Artemis> hmmm... no shit? *thinks*

求：くだらない事を堪えきれない日本語翻訳者 or 求：くそも何もない日本語翻訳者

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rukawa and aripie...

happy birthday!

Koiro Keiyaku

Ike Reibun

ISBN4-86263-040-5
release date: 09/30/07

Scanner: Lalla Translator: Rayquo Editor: Kikuiteru Qcer: Immortalk & Tokki
www.nakama-ga.com #nakama@irchighway.net

SUPER BBC

青色契約

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雑誌54760-25
リブレ出版

Love starts with a burglary when art owner, Andou, has a young artist's, Kagawa Setsuyou's, masterpiece stolen from under his wing. However, he finds himself having to deal with Setsuyou's artistic whims (laugh). Setting deep in the woods, alone together in an ancient gallery... the optimal environment to enjoy Ike's artistic prowess and watch sex scenes quietly from the front row.

青藍のベル・エポック

SEIRAN no BELLE EPOQUE

Indigo Belle Epoque

青色契約

AOIIRO KEIYAKU

Blue Contract

「SETSUYOU
WHY DID YOU
RIP APART THE
PAINTING?」
「IF YOU WANT TO
RUN THEN RUN」
「TO CONTINUE
PAINTING MEANS
TO CONTINUE
BEING ALONE…」
「…NO ONE WILL
HELP YOU」

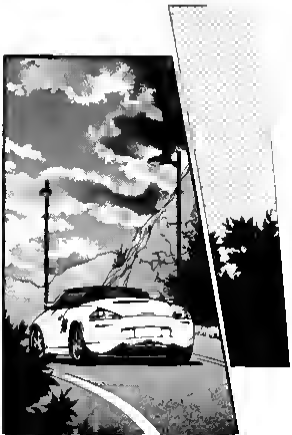
Kagawa Sakuya Exhibition
Indigo Dreams
SHIRO
SIGH

Hmm?

DID YOU CATCH KAGAWA-KUN?
NO, HE'S NOT PICKING UP.
OWNER, ABOUT THE LIGHTING ON FLOOR B...
YEAH, JUST A SECOND
GASP!!
WHAT!?
THIS IS BAD... THAT PAINTING IS THE ONLY ONE THAT HAS YET TO BE BROUGHT INTO THE GALLERY.

BYE!
ALL RIGHT! I'LL GO SEE HOW HE'S DOING
FOR NOW, I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU
OHH! THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE POSSIBLE—
NO, I DON'T THINK—
THE EXHIBITION IS TOMORROW
DON'T TELL ME HE GAVE UP ON COMPLETING THE PIECE AND RAN FOR IT!

What!? He's going out!?
O-OWNER!! WHAT ABOUT THE CHECK !?
Wait!!!
YOU JUST WANT TO SEE HIM!!



There's no way Setsuyou would give up on that painting, let alone run
Jesus

SETSU?
ARE YOU HERE?
DID HE GO OUT?
AT A TIME LIKE THIS WHERE WOULD HE...?

shiver
IT'S ALMOST FRIGHTENING
THIS BLUE
I FEEL AS IF MY WHOLE ESSENCE IS BEING SWEPT AWAY...
TREMENDOUS
THIS...

Owner? Is Kagawa-kun there?
HELLO
NO, HE'S NOT
...BUT THE PAINTING SEEMS TO BE COMPLETE
Good, but Kagawa-kun needs to be at the gallery to...
The booklets for the exhibition
HAS HE GONE TO GIVE THEM TO SOMEONE...?
HIS HOUSE... DO YOU KNOW SETSU'S HOME ADDRESS?

GOODBYE.
Are you really all right? You sure you haven't been abandoned?
Find him by any means!
I'LL CALL YOU BACK IF I CAN'T FIND IT ON THE GPS NAVIGATOR.
OKAY
THEN START SEARCHING FIRST BY HIS NUMBER
...!?
H Hani?
Did something happen here?
A crime!?

ding dong
Kagawa
click click
crunch
creak
HAH

creak
「BUT I CAN'T DRAW TODAY! I DON'T WANT TO!」
「SETSUYOU! FILL AT LEAST ONE SKETCH BOOK A DAY!」
「SHUT UP AND DO IT!」
「MOLIERE WAS A PLAYWRIGHT WHAT IS THIS?」
「THERE'S NO DIMENSION AT ALL YOUR HATCHING IS TOO ROUGH」

SETSUYOU'S FATHER, KAGAWA GAKUEI WAS A REPRESENTATIONAL ARTIST WHO ACHIEVED CULT-LIKE FANDOMS

RARELY DID HE DISPLAY NEW PIECES, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR BOTH SELLERS AND BUYERS OF HIS ART

HMM...?
HUH?
HERE
ANDOU-SAN...!?

WOW...

NO, I'M SORRY FOR NOT CALLING
I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE YOU WERE, SO I CAME ALL THE WAY HERE.
THIS IS YOUR FATHER'S ATELIER?
YEAH STORAGE NOW... I GUESS
ARE YOUR DRAWINGS HERE TOO, SETSU?
I'D LIKE TO SEE THEM
?
THAT'S FINE, AS LONG AS YOU'RE SAFE.

What's that supposed to mean?
Huh...!?
WAS THIS REALLY DRAWN WHEN YOU WERE EIGHT...?
CAN I SEE?
WELL YEAH, BUT...
IT'S... AMAZING
UM... ANDOU-SAN,
HAVE YOU... SEEN THAT PAINTING YET?
.....
SLAM
SO YOU'VE COME RUNNING BACK?

HUH, SETSUYOU?
AND YOU MUST BE HIS PATRON
KAGAWA GAKUEI!
YOU SPOIL A LOT OF ARTISTS, DON'T YOU?
DAD...
I CAME HERE TODAY TO GIVE YOU THIS
Rummage
Kagawa Gakuei Exhibition
~Enemies of Love~

HMPH! YOUR OWN EXHIBITION, HUH? LET'S HOPE IT'S EVEN WORTH A LOOK.
.....

"WORTH A LOOK"? HOW HARSH-
EVEN TO HIS OWN SON. BUT STILL...

LET'S GO ANDOU-SAN
IF THAT'S ALL YOU WANTED TO SAY, THEN LEAVE YOU'VE ALREADY ABANDONED THIS PLACE AS YOUR HOME
DAD, CAN YOU...
ANDOU-SAN
CAN YOU SAY THAT HE IS NOT A FULL-FLEDGED ARTIST?
KAGAWA-SAN, ARE YOU NOT COMING TO THE EXHIBITION? WHY!?

I DO NOT SPONSOR JUST ANY ARTIST!
IT IS BECAUSE SETSU IS NOT JUST AN ARTIST WITH TALENT...
BUT BECAUSE HE IS A TRUE ARTIST WHO WILL NOT SUCCUMB TO PRESSURE!
IF YOU COULD SEE HIS PIECE, I'M SURE YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND
DAD. PLEASE COME!

SEE HOW I'VE CHANGED... HOW I NO LONGER RUN AWAY FROM DRAWING
I SEE...
SO YOU'VE BECOME AN ARTIST AT LAST, HAVE YOU...?
HUH...?

!!
I DIDN'T SAY I WASN'T GOING TO GO
YOUR MOTHER WANTS TO SEE YOU TOO. ARE YOU GOING TO BE AT THE GALLERY?
Y...YEAH! DEFINITELY ON THE WEEKEND.
I SEE.
NOT LIKE IT MATTERS, BUT TAKE OFF YOUR HAT WHEN YOU'RE INDOORS!
Aaah!

MESSY
Ah...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR HAIR!?
If you're going to at least try the gallant look, that is enough!
Setsu... you actually did it...
NO, IT'S...
I KNEW YOU'D GET MAD IF I SHOWED UP WITH LONG HAIR, SO I...
SO YOU CUT IT YOURSELF!?
I meant As for it, at last!
His father's hair is pretty messy too...

SETSU?
KAGAWA-SAN WAS A DIFFICULT MAN,
BUT I'M GLAD HE'S COMING.
I CAN'T BLAME HIM...
HE HASN'T SLEPT MUCH LATELY...

IN ORDER TO PAINT
THAT BRILLIANT BLUE

I WAS ACTUALLY REALLY SCARED.

I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT WELL,
THAT'S WHY...
SO IN MY HEAD, I WAS WONDERING IF I HAD SOMEHOW LET YOU DOWN...
THAT PAINTING REPRESENTS EVERYTHING THAT I AM RIGHT NOW...
...MADE ME REALLY HAPPY.
BUT WHAT YOU SAID EARLIER TO DAD...
THERE WON'T BE A SINGLE PERSON WHO CAN LOOK AT THIS PAINTING AND NOT FEEL SOMETHING

I GUESS I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT WELL MYSELF
I DIDN'T SAY IT BECAUSE I LOVE YOU
ON THE CONTRARY, I'M QUITE LONELY... IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE MOVING FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY FROM ME.
ANDOU-SAN

IT'S THE BEGINNING OF YOUR NEW ERA, THE NEO 'BLUE PERIOD'
BLUE PERIOD?
THAT'S LIKE PICASSO!
HMM.
HOW ABOUT 'BELLE EPOQUE'? LIKE THE ONE AT THE END OF THE 19TH CENTURY
YOUR... INDIGO BELLE EPOQUE IS COMING

HAHA, WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WHATTT?
IS IT BAD? I SHOULDN'T USE IT AS THE NEW TITLE TO YOUR EXHIBITION?
Ho Ho
THAT'S OKAY
AHH
GO TO SLEEP...

ANDOU-SAN...
IF I COULDN'T DRAW ANY MORE...
WOULD YOU STILL LOOK AT ME?

POP
I WISH...
...YOU'D SLEEP LIKE THIS FOREVER.

ririring
I SEE
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO START... I KNOW I'M SORRY
WHAT? NO, I WASN'T FOOLING AROUND
YES, HELLO?
YEAH... ARE YOU PREPARED TO BRING IT IN?
AT LEAST UNTIL THE EXHIBITION, PLEASE REMAIN MINE AND MINE ALONE.

Indigo Belle Epoque / End

HMPH! HURRY UP AND LEAVE!
BYE, DAD!
vrrrm
slam
Is actually very caring towards his son?
Damnit!
tears up
Leaving so quickly
Exhilaration huh..?

IT WON'T BE ON THE TEST!!

Everyday Facts of Blue

HATCHING

Another way of shading by drawing several parallel lines close together
When sketching with a pencil you can produce various shades of grey with this method

BLUE PERIOD

Works created during Picasso's twenties are from what is called his Blue Period
He drew many prostitutes and harlequins with blue shades making it very depressing It was a popular period for people including myself
Did you know Picasso's name was really long?
If I remember myself It was
Pablo Diego José Francisco de Paula Juan Nepomuceno María de los Remedios Cipriano de la Santísima Trinidad Clito Ruiz y Picasso

MARK ROTHKO

A Russian-born abstract artist who was based in America He lived from 1903 to 1970
His deep shades of color on a large canvas put many viewers in a contemplative state
In Japan you can fully experience his works by visiting the "Rothko Room" at the Kawamura Memorial Art Gallery Would you like to go with me sometime?

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rukawa and aripie...

happy birthday!

Koiro Keiyaku

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Magnificent Farewells
SEKIBETSU no Mecenat
惜別のメセナ
flap
Medici Award
Kagawa Seisuke
THIS IS AMAZING FOR KAGAWA-KUN... THEY SAY HE'S THE YOUNGEST EVER TO RECEIVE THIS AWARD!
IT'S TRUE
CLATTER

BUT IT NO LONGER HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME.
Sekisetsu no Mécénat
惜別のメセナ

HAHAHA! WOW YOU TWO MUST BE ON EXCELLENT TERMS.
AND YOU ARE...?
TO HAVE PICTURES LIKE THESE TAKEN
OH, I APOLOGIZE
HERE

SORRY, MEANT TO TAKE THIS ONE OUT.
THE HISHIYA GROUP INSIGNIA!
WHY SHOULD I BUY SOMETHING THAT WON'T EVEN GET THE CHANCE TO CIRCULATE?
I WAS PLANNING TO SELL THESE TO A CERTAIN PUBLISHER, BUT IT SEEMS HE'S ONLY INTERESTED IN CELEBRITY PHOTOS
SO, HOW ABOUT YOU DO ME A FAVOR, OWNER
HAHAHA
YOU SURE?

WHAT COULD YOU BE TALKING ABOUT?
IS THIS HARASSMENT RESTITUTION FOR RUINING YOUR REPUTATION AT THE AUCTION?

CLOSE
I DIDN'T WANT TO BE DISTURBED.
OWNER,
WHY DID YOU GIVE HIM THE MONEY?

...NOT YET.
Kagawa Setsuyou Exhibition
~ Indigo Dreams~

SOMETHING HAPPENED DIDN'T IT?
TELL ME
HM? WELL...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT

ANDOU-SAN
Angry?

THESE ARE THE PHOTOS.

WHY DID HE TAKE THESE?
IF OUR RELATIONSHIP WAS THE ONLY THING BEING EXPOSED, IT WOULDN'T BE SUCH A BIG DEAL
BUT IT'LL PROBABLY GO FARTHER THAN THAT
HOW FAR EXACTLY, I DON'T KNOW.
SO THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN SAY ABOUT THAT, BUT
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO ANDOU-SAN?

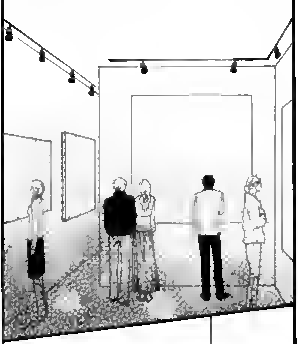
WELL . . I'M NOT ENTIRELY HELPLESS IN THIS SITUATION, SO I'LL ASK AROUND
.....
SETSU?
DON'T PUT YOURSELF IN DANGER TO SOLVE THINGS AGAIN.

.....
Grab

LET'S PUT OFF THESE KINDS OF THINGS FOR A WHILE.

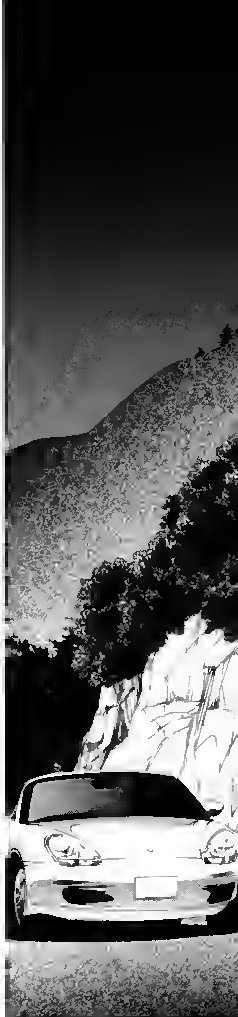
DON'T PUT YOURSELF IN DANGER...
TWIST
BAM
DAMNIT!

MY OWN RECKLESSNESS IS MAKING ME SICK...
GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF, GETTING THE PAINTING BACK...
HOW DID I GET INVOLVED IN THIS?
HAH...
SOME LOVER I AM...
AM I, WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO PROTECT SETSU, ACTUALLY HINDERING HIM?
SETSU...



SASAKI-SAN!

OH HE'S WITH THE FORMER OWNER.
WHERE'S ANDOU-SAN?



NO, IT'S NOTHING.
SOMETHING WRONG?
I SEE.
FORMER OWNER... ANDOU-SAN'S GRANDFATHER?

ANDOU-SAN...

SO THIS RARE VISIT WAS TO ASK ME TO DEAL WITH A PROBLEM HUH?

YOU KNOW ABOUT THE UMEZAKI GROUP, DON'T YOU?
FROM WHAT I HEAR, IT WAS RECENTLY PLACED AS A BRANCH OF THE UMEZAKI GROUP.
THE INSIGNIA BELONGED TO THE HISHIYA GROUP.
BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO
I DID LEND THEM ONE OF OUR PAINTINGS TO COVER UP A BRIBE.
WELL—

HAVE I EVER ASKED YOU FOR A FAVOR?
Chuu
YOU SEEM TO BE IN A PINCH
THEY MUST HAVE SOMETHING ON YOU, HM?
WHAT? YOU CAN'T TELL ME?
FINE
Panng
IT'LL BE A HASSLE BUT I'LL HAVE A WORD WITH THEM
JUST DON'T EXPECT ANYTHING

HE SAID MY PAINTING WASN'T BAD...
...I MEANT MY DAD!
REALLY?

THE SCARY MAN CAME TODAY!
WHAT?
OH! NO, NO...

ANDOU-SAN, HAVE YOU GOTTEN TIRED OF ME?

LET'S GO BACK TO A PURELY WORK-RELATED RELATIONSHIP
WHA...
WAIT, WHY?
I WON'T BREAK THE CONTRACT, OF COURSE
I STILL PLAN TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO HELP YOU,
BUT WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER LIKE BEFORE

I'M SORRY

slam

THAT'S.
YES THAT'S THE FAMOUS CONCEPTUAL ARTIST, AOYAMA-SAN
HE WAS WITH MURAKOSHI-SENSEI EARLIER.
WHAT IS GOING ON WITH YOU TWO?
IT'S NOTHING

IF WE STOP SEEING EACH OTHER, SETSU WILL PROBABLY FORGET ALL ABOUT ME
THE EXHIBITION ENDS TOMORROW
...THEN WE MAY NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN
CLICK
BRILLIANT
THANK YOU...

THOSE DEEP COLORS. IT REMINDS ME OF A ROTHKO,
BUT MORE AGGRESSIVE
I SEE...
I UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE WOULD WANT TO STEAL IT.
YOU...
WHAT DO YOU WANT!?

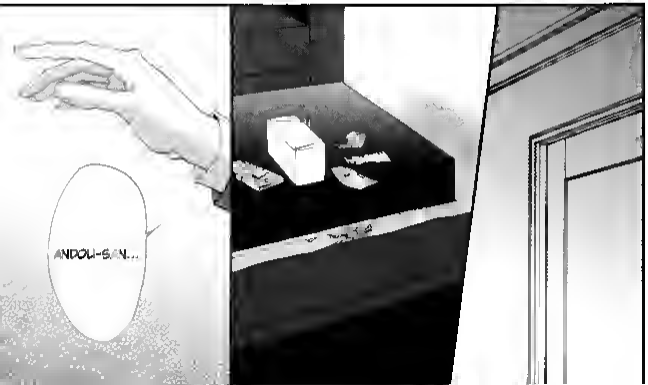
HOW RASH...
YOU SEEM JUMPY TODAY.
I APOLOGIZE.
THUD

I'M SORRY MY MEN DISTURBED YOU
THIS IS JUST SOMETHING TO EXPRESS MY APOLOGIES
MY FATHER SCOLDED ME TODAY...
...SOMETHING ABOUT BEING INDEBTED TO THE FORMER OWNER.
IS IT ENOUGH?

SHIT!
LET GO OF ME! I CAN WALK BY MYSELF!
SLAM
HAND OVER ALL THE NEGATIVES AND THE DATA... EVERYTHING
RIGHT!
THIS MAN...
KABU-SAN!
IS IT THIS ONE? WAIT...
UH...
JUST A SECOND.

SMACK
.....
AH!
CRACK
crack
HEY! NOT HERE!
OWNER,
YOU SHOULD STOP STICKING YOUR HEAD INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS.
UGH...
THUMP

I KNOW...


ANDOU-SAN...

I'M SORRY, SETSU...
SO YOU WERE PRETENDING TO THINK LITTLE OF ME AFTER ALL

I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU,
I LOVE YOU
I'VE LOVED YOU SINCE WE FIRST MET
BUT THIS IS THE OUTCOME
IT WAS ALL MY FAULT IN THE END!
BUT I WAS TRULY GRATEFUL YOU GOT THE PAINTING BACK, ANDOU-SAN!
IT'S NOT THAT...
I'M JUST FORCING MY FEELINGS ONTO YOU
SHOWING YOU ALL MY WOUNDS. IT'S MY EGO
LIKE THIS...

!
WHY!? THAT'S NOT FAIR!
OVER AND OVER, I'VE BEEN CONSTANTLY TELLING YOU THE SAME!
YOU AREN'T FORCING ANYTHING ONTO ME.
I LOVE YOU, ANDOU-SAN.

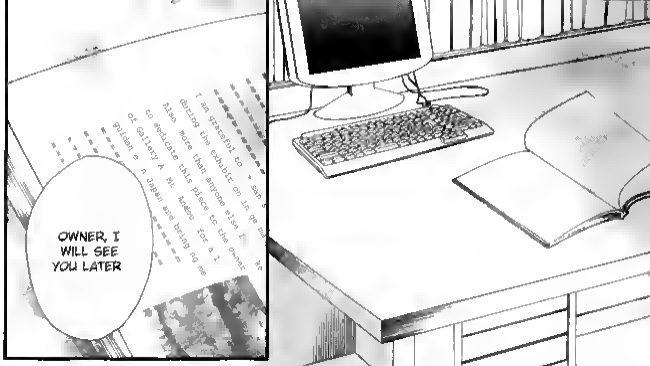
SETSU!?
.....
TURN
SETSU... STOP IT!
NO
GRAB
GRAB

CLINK
YOU KNOW I'M NOT A GIRL, RIGHT?
WHAT?
I LOVE YOU
slide
Nn... Andou-san...
Ha...

creak
creak
creak
creak
STOP IT...
Hn...
I—
Fk
Fk
Fk
squish
squish
squish
squish
squish
AH...
SETSU!
splatter
.....

Pant
GET OFF ME.

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO CANCEL OUR CONTRACT.
FROM NOW ON, I'LL ALSO DO AS I PLEASE.


OWNER, I WILL SEE YOU LATER

EVEN AFTER RECEIVING SUCH AN INTER-NATIONALLY-ACCLAIMED AWARD
HE WANTS TO DEDICATE IT TO ME, HUH?
RIGHT...

!
THIS IS HOW IT WAS MEANT TO BE

WHY?
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, ANDOU-SAN

WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR... TODAY?
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR AWARD.
flutter
flutter
!
I ONLY BROUGHT THE PAINTINGS THAT I COULD CARRY.
BUT THERE ARE MANY MORE BACK AT THE ATELIER.

EVEN WHEN WE'RE APART, I STILL DRAW ONLY FOR YOU, ANDOU-SAN
Flutter
WHY DID YOU COME? WE'VE FINALLY STOPPED SEEING EACH OTHER...
click
YEAH... SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO CATCH YOU THIS TIME.

YOU ONCE SAID HAVE YOUR WAY WITH ME, DIDN'T YOU?
DID YOU STOP CARING ABOUT ME?
Hug

NOW YOU MAKE ME SEEM LIKE AN IDIOT!

Mecenat of Regretful Farewells /End

[AFTERWORD]
For those of you who are first time readers and to those that aren't, thank you for taking this book into your hands! Thanks to you all, I'm finally able to publish this book.
I am truly grateful for all the messages of support I've received from you, my dear readers.

This story was spread out over a longer timeline. The first chapter took place five years after they met, and the last one about three years after they parted. Setsu's hair length changes a lot, doesn't it? (laugh) Andou's doesn't change at all?
Andou's first name never actually came up throughout the story. I did have one, but before I could get over how unsuited it was for him, the story ended. If I were to name him now, it would be Kimimu? maybe Andou Kimimu? hm? Sounds like a name for a figurine? (Whimps) My personal goal for this story was to draw a cool seme, but he ended up being pretty wimpy. He is a scared one? Setsu might actually be the manlier one.
Well, this was their story, and hopefully you'll find the time to send me a comment or two.

By the way, this book has several cameos from my previous work, 『Kanga na Span』.
As of September 2006, it has become hard to find, but if you see it, please see buy them!

special thanks
To my managers M-sama and I-sama, thank you for dealing with the hassle I put you through.
Ike Kaibun